

**Amendment and Response**

Applicant: Ken G. Pomaranski et al.

Serial No.: 10/699,423

Filed: Oct. 31, 2003

Docket No.: 200209704-1/H300.224.101

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR TESTING A CELL

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**IN THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims:**

1. (Previously Presented) A computer system comprising:
  - a system module having a first interface;
  - a test module having a second interface configured to communicate with the first interface;
  - a first cell having a first controller configured to communicate with the first interface and the second interface; and
  - a second cell having a second controller configured to communicate with the first interface and the second interface;wherein the system module is configured to cause the test module to test the first cell subsequent to the second cell being allocated to a first instance of an operating system, and wherein the system module is configured to cause the first cell to be de-allocated from the first instance of the operating system prior to causing the test module to test the first cell.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the system module is configured to cause the second cell to be allocated to the first instance of the operating system subsequent to causing the first cell to be de-allocated from the first instance of the operating system.
4. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the system module is configured to cause the test module to test the first cell in response to accessing a list that identifies floating cells.
5. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the system module is configured to cause the test module to test the first cell in response to accessing a list that identifies cells allocated to the first instance of the operating system.

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6. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the test module includes a diagnostic test, and wherein the test module causes the first cell to be tested using the diagnostic test.

7. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the first cell includes a diagnostic test, and wherein the test module causes the first cell to be tested by initiating the diagnostic test.

8. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the test module is configured to detect an error in response to testing the first cell, and wherein the test module is configured to cause remedial action associated with the error to be performed in response to detecting the error.

9. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the second interface of the test module couples to the first controller of the first cell using an I2C connection.

10. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the first cell comprises a processing system.

11. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the first cell comprises a storage system.

12. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the first cell comprises an input/output (I/O) system.

13. (Original) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the system module is configured to allocate the first cell to a second instance of the operating system subsequent to the test module testing the first cell.

14. (Currently Amended) A method performed by a computer system comprising:  
detecting that a first cell that is allocated to an operating system is to be tested;

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de-allocating the first cell from the operating system;  
allocating a second cell to the operating system subsequent to de-allocating the first cell from the operating system; and  
testing the first cell with a test module that is external to the first cell subsequent to de-allocating the first cell from the operating system.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising:

detecting that the first cell is to be tested by determining a time that the first cell was previously tested.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising:

detecting that the first cell is to be tested by detecting a scheduled time.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 further comprising:

storing results of testing the first cell.

18. (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising:

allocating the first cell to the operating system subsequent to testing the cell.

19. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a first cell allocated to an operating system;

a first means for de-allocating the first cell from the operating system;

a second means for allocating a second cell to the operating system subsequent to de-allocating the first cell from the operating system; and

a third means external to the first cell for testing the first cell subsequent to the first cell being de-allocated from the operating system.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the third means is for performing electrical tests on the first cell.

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21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the third means is for performing functional tests on the first cell.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the first means is for causing the third means to test the first cell.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the third means is for detecting an error in the first cell in response to testing the first cell, and wherein the third means is for causing remedial action to be taken in response to detecting the error.

24. (Previously Presented) A computer system comprising:

a system module having a first interface;

a test module having a second interface configured to communicate with the first interface;

a first cell having a first controller configured to communicate with the first interface and the second interface; and

a second cell having a second controller configured to communicate with the first interface and the second interface;

wherein the system module is configured to cause the test module to test the first cell subsequent to the second cell being allocated to a first instance of an operating system, and wherein the system module is configured to cause the test module to test the first cell in response to accessing a list that identifies floating cells.